

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (original): A mirror substrate, wherein the substrate is made of a particle-dispersed silicon material composed of silicon carbide and silicon, and the surface of said substrate to be used as a reflecting surface is polished to mirror finish.

2. (original): The mirror substrate according to claim 1, wherein the Vickers hardness thereof is 1,500 Hv or more, the 3 point bending hardness thereof is 500 MPa or more, and the thermal conductivity thereof is 100 W/m·K or more.

3. (original): The mirror substrate according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said mirror is concave.

4. (original): The mirror substrate according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said mirror is convex.

5. (original): The mirror substrate according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said mirror is planar.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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6. (currently amended): The mirror substrate according to any one of claims 1 to ~~5~~or 2, wherein the maximum diameter of ~~the~~ concavities and convexities or pores on the surface of said mirror is 40 nm or less.

7. (currently amended): The mirror substrate according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~claim 6, wherein the maximum diameter of the concavities and convexities or pores is 20 nm or less.

8. (currently amended): The mirror substrate according to claim ~~6 or 7~~, wherein the concavities and convexities or pores on the surface of said mirror occupy 20% or less of the area of said mirror surface.

9. (original): A mirror body wherein a reflecting film is provided on said mirror finish polished surface of said mirror substrate according to claim 1 or 2.

10. (original): The mirror body according to 9, wherein said reflecting film is made of a metal.

11. (original): The mirror body according to 10, wherein said metal is gold, aluminum, silver or rhodium.

12. (original): The mirror body according to 9, wherein said reflecting film is made of a multilayer dielectric film.

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
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13. (currently amended): An optical device, wherein the mirror body according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 12~~ claim 9 is employed as a reflecting mirror.

14. (original): The optical device according to claim 13, wherein said optical device is a reflecting telescope.

15. (original): The optical device according to claim 13, wherein said optical device is a reflecting communication antenna.

16. (currently amended): The optical device according to claim ~~14 or 15~~ 13, wherein the optical device comprises a mirror reflecting the incident light beam and thereafter focusing the incident light beam on a detector.

17. (currently amended): The optical device according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 16~~ claim 13, wherein the optical device comprises a first mirror for reflecting the incident light beam and thereafter focusing the light beam on a second mirror and the second mirror reflecting said focused light beam and thereafter focusing the light beam on a detector.

18. (currently amended): The optical device according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 17~~ claim 13, wherein said optical device is exclusively made of said particle dispersed silicon material composed of silicon carbide and silicon.

19. (original): The optical device according to claim 14, wherein said detector is an image sensor.

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20. (original): The optical device according to claim 15, wherein said detector is a photodetector.